The Corporation of The City of London
April 15, 2008
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Poll Cites Infrastructure Deficit as Primary Issue facing Canadian Municipalities

Canadians overwhelmingly want the Federal Government to provide financial support to assist Municipal Governments with mounting infrastructure issues, according to a cross-Canada survey conducted on behalf of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

Over the past few years, municipal infrastructure issues have risen to national prominence. Issues that were once solely the subject of debate in Municipal Councils are now part of a national agenda being debated in Parliament. From crumbling infrastructure and affordable housing to public safety and environmental degradation, concerns cited in London and other Canadian municipalities are now on the federal radar.

As an active member of the FCMï¿½s Big City Mayorsï¿½ Caucus, London Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best believes the FCM poll is very timely, showing citizens want Parliament to focus on these crucial issues before itï¿½s too late.

ï¿½The survey results clearly indicate what Londoners and all Canadians expect from the Federal Government - swift action to address the growing infrastructure deficit our City and other municipalities are facing," says Mayor DeCicco-Best. "This is a watershed moment, with the national poll results pointing to the same critical need for sustainable infrastructure funding the City of London has been citing for many years."

The FCM survey also reveals Canadians disagree with the premise that problems, issues and challenges facing cities should only be financed by property taxpayers. The survey further indicates that Canadians agree that Municipal Governments lack sufficient resources to meet the current challenges and require immediate intervention by both the Federal and Provincial Governments to fix the problem.